Eng. c. 1873

A

CATALOGUE

Of the GENUINE and moſt CURIOUS

COLLECTION

OF

SARDONYX's, ONYX's, OPALS, GARNETS, AGATES, PORPHYRYS, and other ORIENTAL STONES; Antique CAMEO's and INTAGLIA's in RINGS, PICTURES, and MINIATURES; curious Mathematical and Optical Inſtruments, and other valuable EFFECTS,

BELONGING TO

ROBERT HUGHES,

Conſul General for the *Dutch*, and Agent for the *Engliſh*, at *Grand Cairo*, in *Egypt*,

Collected during a Reſidence there of Thirty-three Years.

Which will be ſold by AUCTION,

By Mr. *BASTIN*,

At his Auction Room, in *Exeter Change*, in the *Strand*,

On MONDAY the 17th of this Inſtant *December* 1770, and the following Day.

NOTE. In the ſecond Day will be ſold, that extremely rare and great Curioſity, The Stone of the World, repreſenting the Globe; alſo two Egyptian Mummies; beautiful Collection of Sulphurs from the Roman, Florentine, and other Cabinets; Six Volumes in Folio of the Herculaneum, an exceeding fair Copy; an Orrery, and a Pair of Globes.

The whole may be viewed on *Wedneſday* the 12th Inſtant, till the Time of Sale, which will begin each Day punctually at Twelve o'Clock.

To prevent the Nobility and Gentry from being incommoded, none will be admitted without a Ticket, which are delivered at the Door at Six-pence each, with a Catalogue,

by Order of the Proprietor.

ROBERT HUGHES, a ſubject of England, who lived in Egypt for theſe thirty-three years paſt, had the charge of conſul general for the Dutch, and agent for the Engliſh theſe thirteen years paſt at Grand Cairo, &c. In the year 1751 was brought to him by an Abaſine merchant, a very curious Oriental tranſparent water topaz pebble, Lot 74 in the Catalogue, which he found in the river Nigar, in the kingdom of Abaſine, and called it, in the Arab tongue, Il Fus el Deenie; or, the Stone of the World; it reſembles the four elements, with the ſtars in the firmament, and ſaid it was the only ſtone of the kind that ever was known to be found in their river or country. The bottom part of this ſtone repreſents water, ſand, rocks and weeds; with a fiſh, called the mullet, darting from the bottom of the ſea to feed upon land. The ſtone weighs ſeven ounces and ſome drahms, is larger than a gooſe's egg, and much in that ſhape; few years after came ſeveral travellers of different nations to view the curioſities of Egypt, who were deſirous of ſeeing the ſeveral antiquities and curioſities I generally had by me; amongſt which they ſaw the above-mentioned ſtone, and after examining it, they adviſed me to ſend it to England, or ſome other part of Europe; I told them I hoped in a ſhort time to bring it myſelf, which I accordingly did, altho' I remained there ſeveral years after. Many gentlemen verſed in antiquities and Oriental ſtones, declared, that in all their travels they never had ſeen ſuch a curious ſtone; and gave their opinion that it was the greateſt curioſity in Nature. The Muſeum, the Royal and Antiquarian Societies had a ſight of it when it was rough, and as I was obliged to be in Holland laſt winter to ſettle ſome affairs with their High Mightineſſes, I then had it poliſhed.

The ſeveral ſorts and qualities of different Oriental tranſparent ſtones, that are mentioned in this catalogue, are ſardonyx's of different colours and ſizes; as alſo opals of the 2d, 3d, and 4th quality, avanturina, giraſole, calcidonio, and pieta ſtellata, ſo call'd in Italian.

Theſe ſaid ſtones have been eſteemed in old times by the ancient learned, to be ſtones of vertue, and is counted ſo now by the Romans, French, Italian, &c. There are alſo other curious Oriental ſtones, ſuch as verdi antiche, of different qualities, porphyry, marbles, alabaſter, roots of emerald, a few Syrian garnets, and a ſmall quantity of the real compoſition, ſuch as the antient Egyptians uſed to make their moſaick work, in Pharaoh's time, for the Egyptian compoſition was always held in eſteem, both by the ancient and modern connoiſſeurs. The Oriental ſtones were chiefly found in Abaſine, in the river Nigar, and Arabia Felix; about the old ancient city of Captos, and the ruins of the city of Memphis, the two old cities of Alexandria, and other ancient cities going up the Nile into Upper Egypt, as far as Thebes, which cities are now reduced to villages on each ſide of the banks of the river Nile, and were collected by the aforeſaid Robert Hughes, who entirely ſubmits himſelf and them to the candour and goodneſs of the nobility and gentry of theſe kingdoms.

First Day's Sale, *Monday*, *December* 17, 1770.

SHELLS, FOSSILS, &c.

Lot

1 TWO muſic ſhells, 2 cowries, and 2 other ſhells
2 A parcel of ſhells, &c.
3 A ditto, with barnacles, &c.
*3 Two china ſhells
4 A piece of curious dentrites, in a frame
5 A parcel of foſſil ſhells and other petrefactions
6 Two ſpecimens of foſſil wood from Harwich, with ſtalactites from Derbyſhire
7 A large ſpecimen of Scotch aſbeſtus, a piece of green ditto, and a maſs of Fribourg agate
8 A large gloſſopetra from Harwich, with ſome ludi helmontii from ditto
9 A parcel of agate, &c. from Scotland
10 A piece of dog tooth ſpar, with 8 ſpecimens various
11 A ſmall ſcull in coral, an agate handle, an amulet of Saxon ſerpentine, and ſeveral other curious ſtones
12 A brain ſtone, with ſeveral ſpecimens of copper ore, antimony, cobalt, mica, &c.
13 A piece of luminous ſpar with ſtalactites and pyrites
14 A parcel of mundic, asbeſtos and pyrites
15 A piece of galena, with ſeveral ſpecimens of lead ore and pyrites
16 Three ſpecimens of marcaſite, and 3 of asbeſtos
17 Ditto, ditto
18 Six ſpecimens of iron ore from Yorkſhire, &c.
19 Several ditto chryſtallized
20 Several ſpecimens of grain tin ore

Curious ORIENTAL STONES.

21 Twenty agate onyx's
22 Five opals of the 3d and 4th quality
23 Twenty agate onyxes
24 Six calcidonio's, girasoles, avanturina and pietra fellata
25 Twenty agate onyx's
26 Fifty girasolis, &c. pebbles
27 Fifty ditto
28 Five beryl stones
29 Thirty-eight pieces of porphyry, alabaster, verdi antiche and marble
30 Thirty-eight pieces of ditto
31 Five intaglia's in Egyptian composition
32 Five ditto
33 Five ditto
34 Five ditto
35 Five ditto
36 Ten ditto
37 Ten ditto
38 Ten ditto
39 Ten ditto
40 Ten ditto
41 Ten ditto
42 Five opals of the 3d and 4th quality

Antique CAMEO's and INTAGLIA's in RINGS, &c.

43 Jupiter Ammon, on a cornelian
44 A Roman senator, on an agate onyx
45 The head of Caligula, on ditto
46 A lion, ditto
47 The figure of Minerva, on a cornelian
48 A horse and the constellation Taurus, ditto
49 A man milking a goat
50 A dog with a stag

Curious ORIENTAL STONES.

51 Five calcidonio's, giraſoles, avanturina, and pietra ſellata
52 Ten fine large ſardonyx's
53 Ten ditto
54 Ten ditto
55 Five opals of the 3d and 4th quality
56 A parcel of Syrian garnets
57 Ditto
58 Six calcidonio's, giraſole, avanturina and pietra ſellata
59 A piece of the root of emerald
60 Seven ſardonyx cats eyes
61 Six ditto
62 Six ditto
63 Six calcidonio's, giraſoles, avanturina, and pietra ſellata
64 Six ſardonyx cats eyes
65 Five opals of the 3d and 4th quality

MINIATURES, &c.

66 Ten of the Cæſars in bronze
67 Two gentlemens heads, in metal frames
68 Two ditto, in ditto
69 Two ditto
70 A gentleman's head, and a lady's ditto
71 Four antique heads, in bronze
72 The heads of the twelve Cæſars, ditto
73 Four curious diſhes

Second Day's Sale, *Tueſday*, *December* 18, 1770.

SHELLS, &c.

LOT

1 A Caſk with a parcel of ſpar, mundic, &c. for grotto work
2 A parcel of ditto in a box
3 A partition box with ſhells
4 A maſs of ſhells and other bodies
5 A parcel of limpets and flower ſhell
6 A ditto of bivalves
7 A ditto, with ſome pearl ſhell
8 Two buccinum, and a knob'd helmet
9 Five helmet ſhells, &c.
10 A trumpet ſhell, and 2 buccinum
11 A parcel of ſea fans
12 A ditto, ditto

Curious ORIENTAL STONES.

13 Twenty agate onyx's
14 Thirteen ditto
15 Fifty girafolei, &c. pebbles
16 Thirty-five ditto
17 Five calcidonio's ditto
18 Six beryl ſtones
19 Thirty-ſeven pieces of porphyry, alabaſter, verdi antiche, and marble
20 Three hundred and ſixteen pieces of Egyptian compoſition
21 Five fine intaglia's in ditto

Antique CAMEO's and INTAGLIA's in RINGS, &c.

22 Two cupids
23 A parrot on a cornelian
24 A chariotteer
25 A griffin on a cornelian
26 A maſk
27 An antique inſcription
28 A boar, on an agate onyx
29 An Egyptian idol
30 Ten fine large ſardonyx's
31 Ten ditto
32 Ten ditto
33 *One hundred various impreſſions in ſulphur, from the moſt celebrated intaglia's ancient and modern, in the Roman, Florentine, and Neapolitan Cabinets, with a catalogue of ditto, by the Abbe Viſconti, preſident of the Roman antiquities*

Curious ORIENTAL STONES.

34 Eleven fine ſardonyx's
35 Six ſardonyx cats eyes
36 Seven ditto
37 Six ditto
38 Seven ditto
39 Three intaglia's, and 2 Hebrew ſtones
40 Five opals of the 3d and 4th quality
41 Seven fine ſardonyx's
42 Five opals
43 Two ſerpents tongues petrified
44 Five opals
45 Five ditto
46 Seven fine ſardonyx's
47 Six calcidonio's, giraſoles, avanturina, and pietra ſellata
48 Five ditto
49 Five ditto

PIC-

PICTURES, &c.

50 Joſeph in Egypt, by Baſſan
51 A fine battle piece, by Stoop, *very capital*
52 A Dutch converſation, by Oſtade
53 A piece of cattle, by Cuyp
54 A landſcape with figures and cattle by *Berghem*
55 A curious model of a Gondola, with the cabin, auning and oars compleat
56 A box with 52 crayons in wood

MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c

57 A grand orrery, 3 feet diameter, on a ſtrong pillar and claw
58 A parallelogram for copying drawings, &c.
59 An aſtronomical quadrant with 2 teleſcopes
60 A curious glaſs fountain
61 A curious concave mirrour, on a ſtand
62 A table air pump
63 A 9-inch ſphere in paſteboard
64 A ſemicircle for ſurveying land
65 An electrifying machine, in a box
66 A compleat ſet of drawing inſtruments, with braſs ſector, and parallel rule
67 A braſs quadrant, with a ſun dial
68 A teleſcope compleat
69 A ſet of inſtruments for cleaning the teeth, in ſilver gilt, the ends tiped with gold
70 A ſet of ditto, in a ſhagreen caſe, mounted in ſilver
71 A reading glaſs mounted in ſilver, and a pair of ſpectacles
72 A curious microſcope
73 A elegant pair of 17-inch globes, covers and ſtands
74 *A* MOST CURIOUS ORIENTAL TRANSPARENT WATER TOPAZ PEBBLE, *repreſenting the four Elements, found in the river Niger, in the kingdom of Abaſine; called in the Arab tongue* "Il Fus el Deenie", *or*, The Stone of the World; *eſteemed, by all lovers of virtu, the greateſt curioſity in Europe*
75 A curious Egyptian mummy, very perfect, taken out of the ſepulchre in the catacombs at the village of Saccara, in the Libian Deſerts; about 11 miles diſtant from the three pyramids, and weſtward of the ſpot where the ancient city of Memphis once ſtood
76 A ditto leſs, a miſcarriage, from the ſame place
*77 The Herculaneum, 6 vol. an exceeding fine copy, with plates of the firſt impreſſion

Curious

Impressions in Egyptian Composition.

77 Five fine intaglia's, antique impressions
78 Five ditto
79 Five ditto
80 Five ditto
81 Five ditto
82 Ten ditto
83 Ten ditto
84 Five ditto
85 Ten ditto
86 Eight ditto
87 Seven ditto
88 A parcel of Syrian garnets
89 Ditto ditto

FINIS.

Impressions in Egyptian Composition.

72 Five fine lapis, antique impressions
73 Five ditto
79 Five ditto
80 Five ditto
81 Five ditto
82 Ten ditto
83 Ten ditto
84 Five ditto
85 Ten ditto
86 Eight ditto
87 Seven ditto
88 A pastil of Syrian green
89 Ditto ditto